

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FOR TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM

REF STATE 264420; CAIRO 9639; CAIRO 4546

1. IN NUMBER OF MEETINGS WITH BEDRAN, EMBASSY HAS INFORMED HIM
OF SUBSTANCE STATE REFTEL AND DISCUSSED IN SOME DETAIL WAY HE AND
HIS COMMITTEE VIEW PROPOSED SYMPOSIUM.

2. AS BEDRAN SEES IT, SYMPOSIUM WOULD BE FOR ABOUT TEN DAYS IN
LATE MARCH OR EARLY APRIL AND WOULD INCLUDE PARTICIPATION FROM
UNIVERSITIES, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND
TECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER. FIRST THREE DAYS WOULD
BE SERIES OF LECTURES OR PRESENTATION WHERE EGYPTIAN SIDE WOULD
PUT FORWARD MATERIAL RELATING TO THE CURRENT SITUATION IN
MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING OF RESEARCH. US SIDE WOULD PRESENT
SOME GENERAL MATERIAL AND RESPOND TO SPECIFIC EGYPTIAN PROBLEMS.
THERE WOULD BE TWO SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS LASTING FOR
ABOUT SIX DAYS, ONE ON SUBJECT OF MANAGEMENT OF RESEARCH AND
OTHER CONCERNING INTEGRATION OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH. UNDERLYING
THEME IN BOTH WORKSHOPS WOULD BE HOW TO DIRECT OR APPLY RESEARCH TO
TASK OF DEVELOPMENT. FOLLOWING WORKSHOPS THERE WOULD BE ANOTHER
DAY-LONG PLENARY TO DISCUSS HOW TO APPLY IDEAS DEVELOPED IN
THE WORKSHOPS, PLAN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS AND PERHAS ESTABLISH A
PERMANENT BILATERAL ADVISORY BODY TO MAINTAIN CONTACT AND EXCHANGE

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IDEAS.

3. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS WE LEARNED THAT NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER HAD BEEN DISCUSSING POSSIBILITY OF SIMILAR SYPOSIUM WITH US NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE (NAS), REPEAT NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE NOT NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION. BEDRAN, HOWEVER, SAID THAT HIS PROPOSAL SUPERCEDED AND INCORPORATED NAS PROPOSAL.

4. EMBOFFS POINTED OUT BEDRAN'S PROPOSED LIST OF PARTICIPANTS DID NOT INCLUDE THOSE WHO HAD REAL PLANNING RESPONSIBILITY AND SUGGESTED THAT, AS A MINIMUM, MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AND PERHAPS PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, SHOULD BE INVOLVED. BEDRAN READILY AGREED TO SUGGESTION.

5. ON THE ORGANIZATION SIDE, BEDRAN CONFIRMED THAT HE IS EGYPTIAN COORDINATOR AND ASKED OUR REACTION TO QUESTION OF WHETHER SYMPOSIUM SHOULD BE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OR AT HOTEL. WE SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF USING THE UNIVERSITY'S FACILITIES INCLUDING DORMITORIES TO KEEP COST DOWN.

COMMENT:

6. WE CAME AWAY WITH IMPRESSION THAT BEDRAN AND HIS COMMITTEE STILL HAVE ONLY VERY GENERAL IDEA OF WHAT THEY WISH TO ACCOMPLISH. WE WOULD APPRECIATE SOME SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS WHICH WE WOULD PASS ON BEDRAN TO START CHANNELLING HIS THINKING.

7. WE ARE AWARE OF ORIGINAL NAS APPROACH (CAIRO 4546) TO NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER BUT HAVE HEARD NOTHING SINCE JULY. SUGGEST DEPT CONTACT NAS TO BE SURE SYMPOSIUM PLANNING IS COORDINATED.
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